GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2265
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2016
STEP Scheme
Chudasama Shri Rajeshbhai Naranbhai

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is implementing 'Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women(STEP) Scheme' to provide updated skills and new knowledge to women;
(b) if so, the details and salient features thereof along with the fields/sectors selected to provide knowledge to the poor women;
(c) the details of project proposals submitted by eligible institutions/organisations including NGOs under the said scheme along with projects sanctioned and grant-in-aid given there under during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
(d) the number of beneficiaries covered under the scheme during the said period, State/UT-wise; and
(e) the further steps taken to expand the reach of the programme and strengthen it to provide updated skills and knowledge to women?

Answer

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SMT. MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI)

(a) to (b) : The Ministry has been administering 'Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP) Scheme' since 1986-87 as a 'Central Sector Scheme'. The STEP Scheme aims to provide skills that give employability to women and to provide competencies and skill that enable women to become self-employed/ entrepreneurs. The Scheme is intended to benefit women who are in the age group of 16 years and above. Assistance under the STEP scheme will be available in any sector for imparting skills related to employability and entrepreneurship, including but not limited to the following: Agriculture, Horticulture, Food Processing, Handlooms, Tailoring, Stitching, Embroidery, Zari etc Handicrafts, Computer & IT enabled services, Gems & Jewellery, Travel & Tourism, Hospitality.

(c) Since this is a demand driven programme, proposals under this scheme are submitted by eligible institutions/ organizations including NGOs. State/ UT-wise details of projects sanctioned during the last 3 years and current year is at Annexure-I and funds allocated to the various organizations for the said period is at Annexure II.

(d) Number of beneficiaries covered under the Scheme during the last three years and current year is at Annexure-III.

(e) The guidelines of the scheme are revised regularly to expand the reach of the programme and strengthen the scheme. Guidelines were last revised in December 2014.
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